

**Small mammal survey in the gardens of Wolfson College, Cambridge, overnight from
29 to 30 April 2026 - Peter Pilbeam, Will Greenfield, Jeremy Pustilnik,
and several students from the College.**

Twenty (20) Longworth traps were set to catch with bedding (hay) and bait (muesli, excess casters and diced apple) at various locations (a small range of habitats) in a clockwise direction round the gardens from around 6pm on 29 April 2026 and checked from around 8am on the following morning. Each animal caught was weighed and sexed and one was marked by fur clipping to demonstrate the technique. The animals were all released where caught - all the traps were then removed.

Trap No.	Location	30/04/2026 – from 8am
61	Adj fence near William's House	WM – f – 16gm
51	LHS of large compost heap	te
68	RHS corner of large pile of chippings	o
53	Behind cut log pile	o
62	In veg behind large log pile	WM – escaped – c16gm
66	Adj small bug hotel	o
54	Adj fence in far LH corner by bug house	o
60	Behind log pile to RHS of bug house	BV – f – 23gm
70	Adj wall opp bug house	BV – mc – 18gm
63	Adj fence along raised border	o
57	Under shrub in far LH corner behind Plommer House	o
55	In far RH corner of Betty Wu Lee Gardens	WM – m – 26.5gm
67	Adj LHS corner of garden by Norton House	WM – m – 20gm
56	Under shrubs by Barton House	o
69	Alongside path	WM – f – 26.5gm
58	By path leading to sundial	WM – m – 20.5gm
59	By fence at far LHS corner of sundial garden	o
64	In long grasses in 'new' gardens	WM – m – 25.5gm
52	In 'shrubbery' in 'new' gardens	BV – m – 31.5gm
65	Under hedge nr Chadwick House	o

WM -- Wood Mouse

BV -- Bank Vole

m -- male

f -- female

o -- open (not tripped)

c -- marked by fur clip

te -- tripped/empy

In summary, out of 20 traps there were 7 Wood Mouse and 3 Bank Vole catches. This represents (of 20 trap sessions) an overall catch rate of 50%.

The Bank Vole caught in trap 60 and the Wood Mouse caught in trap 69 were both lactating. The Bank Vole caught in trap 52 was merely obese.

The weather overnight and when the traps were checked was clear, mild and dry.

Peter Pilbeam

1 May 2026